



# CÉAD MILE Fáilte

*One Hundred Thousand Welcomes*

**Gaelic-American Club**  
74 Beach Road, Fairfield CT 06824  
[www.gaconline.org](http://www.gaconline.org)



**Dealtaine Summer 2013**

## *Welcome to the Gaelic-American Club!*

The **Gaelic American Club, Inc. (GAC)** was founded in 1948 in Bridgeport, CT and was incorporated in 1950. Locations were rented in Bridgeport and Fairfield until we built our own clubhouse. **Feile, Inc.** was founded in 1989 as a 501c(3) non-profit corporation and is the cultural branch of the club. The purpose of the **Gaelic-American Club** and **Feile** is to foster Irish culture among our membership and the community. Members are either Irish born or of Irish descent. A copy of the club's **ByLaws** and **Policy & Procedures** manuals are retained in the Library and we request that you familiarize yourself with them. Membership is a privilege and should not be taken lightly. The operations and management of the club are performed by both **part-time paid employees** (Manager, Permittee, Bar Staff, Kitchen Staff, Custodians) and **volunteer club members**. It takes many volunteer members to staff the club committees and we encourage you to get involved.

**ClubHouse:** The building was built in 1992 and recently expanded in 2009. All entry is through the main lobby. The Carolan Room is to the right of the main lobby and the Pub is to the left. The second floor consists of our library, meeting rooms and offices. Access to the second floor is via the staircase off the main lobby or the staircase and elevator off the Pub. The basement is off-limits to members, unless you are authorized by management. Mailboxes for management and committees are located at the bottom of the stairwell in the main lobby. Smoking is prohibited inside the building.

**Membership Meetings and Information:** Membership meetings are held on the second Friday of each month at 8 pm in the Carolan Room, unless otherwise announced. Between meetings, the club announces information to the membership via the following channels:

1. **Scéala Newsletter:** The Newsletter is published monthly and may be downloaded from the GAC Website via the "Newsletters" tab. You may choose to subscribe to the eMail *Bulletin* and a link to the Newsletter will be sent to you each month. If you prefer to have a paper copy mailed to you, please send an e-mail to [gogreengac@gaconline.org](mailto:gogreengac@gaconline.org) or send a letter to the Newsletter.
2. **eMail Bulletin:** The *Bulletin* is issued weekly as a supplement to the Newsletter and communicates important reminders, updates, and information from committees. Special announcements are also issued. Members can sign-up easily on the GAC Website.
3. **GAC Website [www.gaconline.org](http://www.gaconline.org):** The GAC Website has an abundance of information and is updated frequently.
4. **Posted Notices:** Notices will be posted in the main lobby (bulletin board, tables or doors), only if approved by the House Committee.



**Executive Committee:** The Executive Committee consists of the following officers: President, Vice President, Treasurer, Financial Secretary, Recording Secretary, Sergeant at Arms and three Directors. Elections are held annually in December. All members in good standing and, who are not employees of the club, are eligible to run for office.

**Membership Key Cards:** All voting members are given a **white Membership Key Card**. The card is used to gain entrance into the club (swipe the keypad panel at the main entrance) and for identification. The card has a colored name label on it. The name label is updated each year at renewal time. All renewal applications must be received by the Membership Committee by March 1st. Your membership is terminated if you do not renew on time. If you need to replace a card(s), notify the Membership Committee. The fee to replace a lost card is \$9. Non-working cards are replaced free of charge.

**Scrip Cards:** All voting members are charged \$60 annual Scrip, which can be used to purchase food, drink or tickets to GAC sponsored events (Scrip cannot be used for Feile events). The \$60 is downloaded onto a **green Scrip Card**. The Scrip (\$60) expires on the last day of February ... Use it or lose it. **DO NOT DESTROY YOUR SCRIP CARD**. Your Scrip payment will be downloaded **onto the same card** with each annual renewal. The fee to replace a lost or destroyed card is \$10. Non-working cards are replaced free of charge.

**Gift Cards:** We do NOT accept credit or debit cards and we do NOT have an ATM on the premises. We do sell **gold Gift Cards** for personal use or gift use. Gift cards do **NOT** expire and may be bought for any cash denomination from the bartenders or club manager.

**Club Committees:** The club has standing committees composed of members that are appointed by the President: Audit, Bar, Budget, Communications, Elections, Facilities, Failte, Good and Welfare, House, Kitchen, Library, Membership, Newsletter, Records, Social, Scholarship, and Sports. Please contact the President if you have a special skill or interest for a committee.

**Activities & Groups:** Many of the activities offered by the club are listed on page 3.

Pub & Dining Schedule				Contact Us	
<b>SCHEDULE</b>	<b>PUB HOURS</b>	<b>DINNER</b>	<b>LUNCH &amp; BRUNCH</b>	<b>By Phone</b>	
Monday	7 pm - 12 mid			Manager's Office	(203) 254-0673
Tuesday	7 pm - 12 mid			Pub (Emergencies only)	(203) 254-2723
Wednesday	5 pm - 12 mid	5 pm - 9 pm		Membership	(203) 256-0380
Thursday	5 pm - 12 mid	5 pm - 9 pm		Scrip	(203) 254-8502
Friday	4 pm - 2 am	5 pm - 10 pm		Social Committee	(203) 418-7676
Saturday	12noon - 2 am	5 pm - 10 pm	12 Noon - 3:00 pm Sept 14 through May	Fax	(203) 254-3012
Sunday	12noon - 12 mid	5 pm - 9 pm	11:30am - 2:30 pm Oct 6 through May	<b>By e-Mail:</b> For Committees and Activities, go to the GAC Website at <a href="http://www.gaconline.org">www.gaconline.org</a> and click on "Contact Us" tab.	
<p><i>Schedule changes are published in the Newsletter, Bulletin, and on the GAC Website at <a href="http://www.gaconline.org">www.gaconline.org</a></i></p>					



## ACTIVITIES

**“25” Card Game** Card players meet every Thursday at 7:30 pm in the Carolan Room. How to play instructions are posted on the GAC Website.

**Clan na Gael Players** Feile’s theater group offers year round theatre by or about the Irish, including two stage productions in the spring and fall, and workshops and readings throughout the year.

**Fáilte Committee** *FÁILTE* is Gaelic for welcome - we welcome and assist people entering the club.

**Fairfield Gaelic Pipe Band** Lessons for all ability levels from beginners to advanced, of all ages, meets on Mondays at 6:45 pm. The band practices in the auditorium of First Church Congregational, diagonally across from the GAC parking lot.

**Family Fun Night** A night for our young families to come down to the club and have some fun and a meal together, on the last Friday of each month from 6 pm to 9 pm.

**Fréamh Éireann Genealogy Group** Our name is Gaelic for "Irish Roots" and we have the mission of assisting members interested in learning more about their ancestors. We focus on, but are not limited to, Irish family research. We meet on the second Saturday of each month.

**GAC Bowling League** We bowl on Sundays at 6:30 pm at Nutmeg Bowl in Fairfield. A new season starts each September. All are welcome to join us!

**GAC Business Directory / Trades List** Visit the “GAC Businesses Directory” tab on the GAC Website, where members can advertise their services to other members who may be seeking a service.

**Irish Instrument Sessions** Young or old, beginner or advanced, Monday night at 8 pm is your time to practice with the instruments associated with Irish traditional music.

**Irish Language** *LABHAIRT GAELGE!* Speak Irish! Learn our native language, sharpen your skills or help us sharpen ours. We meet every Thursday in the Irish American Room: 6:30 pm for Beginners and 7:15 pm for Intermediate. *GO RAIBH MAITH AGAT!* Thank you!

**Irish Literature Group** Do you like to read? Would you like to discuss a book written by or about the Irish, be it a mystery, a thriller or just some romance? Join us on Mondays at 7:30 pm.

**Library** The *LEABHARLANN*, located on the 2nd Floor, holds over 2,000 books, newspapers, magazines and videos. All books are written by Irish authors.

**Seniors** Are you retired with some free time? Why not get active with the GAC Seniors? We occasionally go on day trips and hold a luncheon the last Thursday of each month.

**Set Dancing** Have you ever sat and watched a group of set dancers circling around and around, having a grand old time? Join us on Thursdays at 7:30 pm.

**Social Committee** We plan and coordinate special events, holiday gatherings, and children's parties throughout the year. If you would like to join in the fun, please contact us.

**Sports Committee** Come join us and support our Irish cultural sports for exciting GAA Games broadcast live from Ireland on many Saturdays and Sundays throughout the year. Everybody is welcome!

**St. Patrick’s Gaelic Football Club** St. Patrick’s Gaelic Football Club is a nonprofit 501(c)3 organization, which fields teams for boys and girls at the U8, U10, U12, U14 and U16 age levels. Clad in Gaelic-American Club sponsored jerseys, we brought home many championship cups, including the U14 National Championship in 2011. Visit [stpatricksgfc.org](http://stpatricksgfc.org) for more information.

*Please check the Newsletter, Bulletin and Website for schedule updates*



## “DO’S AND DON’TS”

Due to strict state liquor laws and public safety, the following must be adhered to by all members and guests:

1. **DO** enter and exit the club **through the main lobby only**.
2. **DO sign in all guests that are 21 or older!** Guests must be signed in the guestbook that is kept on the desk in the main lobby. Members may sign in a **maximum of 4 guests** at one time.
3. Minors (**under 18**) are not allowed in the bar, unless accompanied by an adult. Minors must remain a minimum of **3 feet** from the actual bar.
4. **DO** supervise your children at all times. Children are not allowed upstairs (2nd floor) unless accompanied by an adult.
5. Dining: Available in both the rear of the Carolan Room and the Pub. *See schedule on page 2* or refer to the Newsletter and Website for the hours of operation. We have a hostess on duty for busy periods, but we **DON’T** take reservations.
6. Drinks (alcoholic and non-alcoholic) are self service. We **DON’T** have cocktail waiters/waitresses. **DO** bring your empty glasses back to the bar.
7. Pool Room: **DO** enjoy a game of pool! Obtain the door’s key from a bartender and follow the room’s rules.
8. Library: **DON’T** bring in food or drinks. **DO** use the materials for reading and research. Materials can be signed out by members only.
9. Fenced Rear Lawn: **DO** use the ashtrays for ashes and butts if you smoke. **DO** enjoy the picnic tables. You may take beverages outside, but **DON’T** leave your glasses & bottles there ... bring the empties back to the bar. Children may also enjoy the area, but **DON’T** leave them unattended or expect another member to watch them.
10. Parking: **DO** use the circular drive at the main entrance for drop-offs and pickups, but **DON’T** park vehicles at the sidewalk. You can park in our neighbor’s parking lots (Abraham L. Green & Son Funeral Home and Fairfield First Congregational United Church of Christ) when they are not in use. **DO** be a good neighbor and respect their property.



**Do** be an informed, involved member! Attend our meetings and events. Utilize our communication media channels. Your membership is what makes our club special.